

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 /073 W

----- 092215

R 291133Z APR 75

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 904

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 145

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: BELFAST LEADER OFFICIAL IRA ASSASSINATED

REF: BELFAST 142

1. LIAM WILLIAM MC MILLEN CHIEF OF THE BELFAST COMMAND STAFF OF THE OFFICIAL IRA WAS SHOT FOUR TIMES AND KILLED BY SINGLE GUNMAN ON THE FALLS ROAD NEAR SPRINGFIELD ROAD LATE AFTERNOON APRIL 28. ASSASSINATION WELL-KNOWN FIGURE CAUSED EXTREME AGITATION IN NEIGHBORHOOD AND PASSING MOTORIST IN VEHICLE SIMILAR TO THAT USED BY ASSAILANT SHOT AND SERIOUSLY WOUNDED SHORTLY THEREAFTER. SPECULATION ABOUT MOTIVE FOR SLAYING CENTERS AROUND FEUD BETWEEN BREAKAWAY IRISH REPUBLICAN SOCIALIST PARTY (IRSP) AND OFFICIAL IRA. IRSP HAS DENIED ANY ITS MEMBERS OR "ANY GROUP COOPERATING" WAS INVOLVED AND HINTED BROADLY THAT THOSE AGENTS PROVOCATEURS HAVING VESTED INTEREST IN PERPETUATING FEUD INCLUDED BRITISH "IMPERIALIST FORCES." OFFICIAL IRA HAS NOT RPT NOT YET ACCUSED IRSP DIRECTLY. PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN THROUGH INCIDENT CENTER HAS DENIED PROVISIONALS INVOLVED.

2. TENSION IN FEUD RISING IN BELFAST AREA (REFTEL) AND UNCLASSIFIED

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THERE WIDESPREAD BELIEF PROVISIONAL IRA BOMBERS AND GUNMEN

ACTING REGULARLY ON BEHALF IRSP. OFFICIALS HAVE BLAMED PROVISIONALS FOR ATTEMPTING BOOBY TRAP CAR LAST SATURDAY AND LOCAL PRESS APRIL 28 CITED REPORT ORIGINATING DUBLIN OF WARNING THAT OFFICIALS WOULD RETALIATE AGAINST PROVISIONALS. IRSP AND PROVISIONALS THROUGH SINN FEIN BOYCOTTING MAY 1 ELECTIONS FOR DELEGATES CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION WHILE REPUBLICAN CLUBS WHICH OFFICIAL IRA POLITICAL ARM RUNNING SEVENTEEN CANDIDATES. IRSP BOYCOTT LARGELY PASSIVE BUT PROVISIONALS TAKING ACTIVE ROLE TO PERSUADE VOTERS CATHOLIC AREAS NORTHERN IRELAND TO ABSTAIN. PROVISIONALS HAVE ALREADY FELT IT NECESSARY ISSUE STATEMENTS EFFECT THEY WOULD NOT ATTEMPT INTIMIDATE VOTERS ON ELECTION DAY.

3. ONE PROTESTANT SHOT AND KILLED AND ONE CATHOLIC WOUNDED WHEN GANG ATTACKED GROUP RAILROAD WORKERS BELFAST APRIL 28. THIS INCIDENT BELIEVED SECTARIAN AND UNCONNECTED TO FEUD.

SPICER

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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